

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims, in which text to be added is underlined and text to be deleted is surrounded by brackets, will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A device for monitoring sterilization with ethylene oxide comprising: at least one layer of polymer comprising an ink formulation and[,] having incorporated therein
 - a) an indicator capable of undergoing at least one color change
 - b) an activator for said indicator, said activator having a halide anion and a monovalent cation, which, when contacted with ethylene oxide, at a pH between 5 and 7 undergoes a reaction wherein the product of said reaction causes said indicator to undergo said color change.
2. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the said indicator comprises at least one member of the group consisting of pigments, dyes, precursors of said dyes, and mixtures of any of the foregoing group members.
3. (Original) The device of claim 2 wherein the said indicator is a pH-sensitive dye.
4. (Original) The device of claim 3 wherein the said indicator is bromothymol blue, bromocresol blue, methyl red, ethyl red, naphtholthelein of mixtures thereof.
5. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the said indicator undergoes a yellow-to-blue, red-to-yellow or red-to-blue color change.
6. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein said polymer is soluble in an

organic solvent.

7. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein said polymer is soluble in water or is water dispersible.

8. (Original) The device of claim 7 wherein said polymer is a homopolymer, or a copolymer of a mixture thereof.

9. (Previously amended) The device of Claim 8 wherein said polymer is a polymer of styrene, acrylate, acrylic acid, acrylamide, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl chloride, or a mixture thereof.

10. (Original) The device of claim 9 wherein the polymer is an acrylate polymer.

11. (Original) The device of claim 6 wherein the polymer is a cellulose nitrate or carboxymethylcellulose.

12 through 39. (Canceled).

40. (Currently amended) A process of using a device for monitoring sterilization of materials, said device comprising at least one layer of polymer comprising an ink formulation and[,] having incorporated therein

a) an indicator capable of undergoing at least one color change when subjected to a rise in pH,

b) an activator for said indicator, said activator having a halide anion and a monovalent cation, which, when contacted with ethylene oxide at a pH of between 5 and 7, undergoes a reaction, wherein the product of said reaction causes a rise in pH said rise in pH causing said indicator to undergo said color change,

comprising the steps of

- c) affixing the device to said materials or containers containing same
- d) carrying out the process of sterilization including the step of introducing ethylene oxide and
- e) observing the presence of a color change of said device.

41. (Currently amended) A process of using a device for monitoring ethylene oxide, said device comprising at least one layer of polymer comprising an ink formulation and[,] having incorporated therein

- a) an indicator capable of undergoing at least one color change when subjected to a rise in pH,
- b) an activator for said indicator, said activator having a halide anion and a monovalent cation, which, when contacted with ethylene oxide at a pH of between 5 and 7, undergoes a reaction, wherein the product of said reaction causes a rise in pH said rise in pH causing said indicator to undergo said color change,

comprising the steps of

- c) exposing the device to ethylene oxide,
- d) observing the presence of color change in the device.

42. (Previously amended) The process of claim 40 wherein the cation is selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, cesium, quaternary nitrogen, quaternary phosphorus and quaternary sulfur.

43. (Canceled).

44. (Canceled).

45. (Previously amended) The process of claim 41 wherein the cation is selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, cesium, quaternary nitrogen, quaternary phosphorus and quaternary sulfur.

46. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the halide anion is selected from the group consisting of iodide, bromide, and chloride anions.

47. (Previously presented) The process of claim 40, wherein the halide anion is selected from the group consisting of iodide, bromide, and chloride anions.

48. (Previously presented) The process of claim 41, wherein the halide anion is selected from the group consisting of iodide, bromide, and chloride anions.